

(3) Help the designee to develop its performance measurement process.

(d) The document announcing the initiation of the designation process describes the procedures for award of these planning grants, post-award reporting requirements with respect to the grants, and the uniform requirements applicable to all Federal grants.

§ 598.405 Environmental review.

Where an empowerment zone's strategic plan or any revision thereof proposes the use of EZ/EC SSBG funds for activities that are not excluded from environmental review under 24 CFR 50.19(b), an environmental review will be performed as required by applicable law.

§ 598.410 Public access to materials and proceedings.

After designation, an area designated an EZ must make available to the public copies of the strategic plan and supporting documentation and must conduct its meetings in accordance with applicable open meetings statutes. HUD may make the strategic plan and supporting documentation available to members of the public.

§ 598.415 Reporting.

(a) Empowerment Zones designated in accordance with this part must submit periodic reports to HUD. These reports must identify the community, local government and State actions that have been taken in accordance with the strategic plan and provide notice of updates and modifications to the strategic plan. In addition to these reports, such other information relating to designated Empowerment Zones as HUD requests from time to time, including information documenting non-discrimination in hiring and employment by businesses within the designated Empowerment Zone, must be submitted promptly.

(b) The States must submit periodic reports to HUD, demonstrating compliance with the certifications it is re-

quired to submit in accordance with this part.

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[63 FR 19155, Apr. 16, 1998, as amended at 63 FR 53262, Oct. 2, 1998]

§ 598.420 Periodic progress determinations.

HUD will regularly evaluate the progress of implementation of the strategic plan in each designated Empowerment Zone on the basis of available information. HUD also may commission evaluations of the Empowerment Zone program as a whole by an impartial third party, at such intervals as HUD may establish.

§ 598.425 Validation of designation.

(a) On the basis of the periodic progress determinations described in § 598.420, and subject to the provisions relating to the revocation of designation in § 598.430, HUD will make findings on the continuing eligibility for and the validity of the designation of any Empowerment Zone.

(b) HUD may approve an Empowerment Zone's request for boundary modification, subject to the requirements specified in subpart B of this part.

§ 598.430 Revocation of designation.

(a) *Basis for revocation.* The Secretary may revoke the designation of an urban area as an Empowerment Zone if the Secretary determines, on the basis of the periodic progress determination described at § 598.420, that the State(s) or local government(s) in which the urban area is located:

(1) Has modified the boundaries of the area without written approval from HUD;

(2) Has failed to make progress in implementing the strategic plan; or

(3) Has not complied substantially with the strategic plan.

(b) *Letter of warning.* Before revoking the designation of an urban area and an Empowerment Zone, the Secretary will issue a letter of warning to the nominating State(s) and local government(s), with a copy to all affected Federal agencies of which the Secretary is aware;

§ 598.500

(1) Advising that the Secretary has determined that the nominating local government(s) and/or State(s) has:

(i) Modified the boundaries of the area without written approval from HUD; or

(ii) Is not complying substantially with, or has failed to make progress in implementing the strategic plan; and

(2) Requesting a reply from the nominating entities within 90 days of the receipt of this letter of warning.

(c) *Notice of revocation.* To revoke the designation, the Secretary must issue a final notice of revocation of the designation of the urban area as an Empowerment Zone, after allowing 90 days from the date of receipt of the letter of warning for response, and after making a determination in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section.

(d) *Notice to affected Federal agencies.* HUD will notify all affected Federal agencies of which it is aware, of its determination to revoke any designation in accordance with this section.

(e) *Effect of revocation.* Upon revocation of an EZ's designation, the designation and remaining benefits may be awarded to the next highest ranked Round II applicant.

(f) *Publication.* The final notice of revocation of designation will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and the revocation will be effective on the date of publication.

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[63 FR 19155, Apr. 16, 1998, as amended at 63 FR 53262, Oct. 2, 1998]

Subpart F—Special Rules

§ 598.500 Indian reservations.

(a) An area within an Indian reservation (as defined in section 168(j)(6) if the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 168(j)(6)) may be included in an area nominated as an Empowerment Zone by State and local governments. An area completely within an Indian reservation may be nominated by the reservation governing body and, in that case, the area is treated as if it also were nominated by a State and a local government. Where two (or more) governing bodies have joint jurisdiction over an Indian reservation, the nomi-

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nation of a reservation area must be a joint nomination.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a reservation governing body must be the governing body of an Indian entity recognized and eligible to receive services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of Interior.

§ 598.505 Governments.

If more than one State or local government seeks to nominate an urban area under this part, any reference to or requirement of this part applies to all such governments.

§ 598.510 Nominations by Economic Development Corporations or the District of Columbia.

Any urban area nominated by an Economic Development Corporation chartered by the State in which it is located or by the District of Columbia shall be treated as nominated by a State and local government.

§ 598.515 Alaska and Hawaii.

A nominated area in Alaska or Hawaii is deemed to satisfy the criteria of distress, size, and poverty rate detailed in § 598.100(b), (c), (d), and (f), and § 598.110 if, for each census tract or block numbering area within the area, 20 percent or more of the families have income that is 50 percent or less of the statewide median family income (as determined under section 143 of the Internal Revenue Code).

PART 599—RENEWAL COMMUNITIES

Subpart A—General Provisions

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